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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 147

By Cooper J

A RESOLUTION To commend Bill C. Houston for honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as Commissioner of Financial Institutions.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those inimitable public servants who during their tenure in office have performed their appointed duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented commitment, and whose professionalism and competence will serve as a benchmark for future public officials; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions Commissioner, Bill C. Houston, is one such distinguished public servant who has given unselfishly of himself, his time, and his remarkable talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, Beginning his meritorious service as a member of Governor Sundquist's administration in 1995, Bill C. Houston has distinguished himself as a highly respected leader in his field and an effective public servant; his decision to quit his post as Commissioner of Financial Institutions leaves a void in state government that will not easily be filled; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of the University of Arkansas who has also studied at Stonier Graduate School of Banking and Harvard University, Commissioner Houston has a long and distinguished record in the financial industry; after completing his undergraduate degree in 1960, he accepted a position as a bank examiner with the Federal Deposit Insurance

Corporation, and, before taking a well-deserved retirement in 1993, he had progressed to the position of Regional Director of the Memphis Region, which included five Mid-South states; and

WHEREAS, Following his departure from the FDIC, Commissioner Houston served with acumen and alacrity as President and principle owner of Banctactics, Inc., a consulting firm based in Maryville, for two years before accepting his appointment as Commissioner of Financial Institutions; and

WHEREAS, For many years, Commissioner Houston has shared his vast knowledge with others so that they might benefit from his expertise; he has provided instruction at Mid-South School of Banking, Southeastern School of Banking, and various FDIC schools at the FDIC Training Center, of which he was also the Assistant Director from November of 1984 until December of 1985; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Houston's wisdom has also proved to be an invaluable contribution to many leadership boards and committees; he currently is a member of the Collateral Pool Board of Directors and State Liaison Committee of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, and he is the Trustee and Chairman of the Performance Standards Committee of the Education Foundation of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, A popular public speaker in great demand, Commissioner Houston authored the insightful article "Macrorisk – The Elements of Failure," which was published in the July 1994 issue of *Independent Banker*; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Houston will long be remembered as an advocate and crusader for good, responsive government and the concerns of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, During his tenure as Commissioner, Bill C. Houston has been a prominent figure on Capitol Hill; he is a gentleman whose talent and energy will rarely be equaled and, without question, he will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, It is now highly appropriate that the friends and colleagues of this outstanding public servant should honor him and recognize his numerous accomplishments and

contributions to our great State upon the occasion of his departure from state government; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Bill C. Houston for his immeasurable service to Tennessee, and honor him for his distinguished service as Commissioner of Financial Institutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish Commissioner Houston all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.